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PHILOMATH PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
March 4, 2019

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Commissioners Gary Conner, Joseph Sullivan, Lori Gibbs, Steve Boggs, Jeannie Gay, Peggy Yoder, and Chair David Stein.

Staff: Chris Workman, City Manager; Patrick Depa, City Planner; Amy Cook, Deputy City Attorney; and Ashley Howell, Building Permit Clerk.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

3.1 February 19th, 2019 Minutes –

MOTION: Commissioner Boggs moved, Commissioner Yoder second, to approve the February 19, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion APPROVED 7-0. (Yes: Boggs, Conner, Gibbs, Gay, Stein, Sullivan and Yoder; No: None.)

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Stein addressed the city website calendar. He explained that there is normally a star on the calendar indicating that the meeting is still standing and that was not done for this meeting. There was discussion around the legalities of continuing with the meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Yoder moved, Commissioner Sullivan second, to continue with the meeting. Motion APPROVED 7-0. (Yes; Conner, Sullivan, Gibbs, Boggs, Gay, Yoder, Stein. No: None.)

Jeff Lamb, Philomath, OR – Mr. Lamb explained that during the last election there was discussion of quality of life and impact of water and traffic. He discussed impact analysis reports and that these reports should be done prior to approval rather than after. He explained that in reviewing the February 19, 2019 meeting minutes, he did not see any discussion around topics or criteria that would improve the quality of life in Philomath, affect infrastructure, and financing of upcoming projects. He stated that he would like to see the city adopt some impact analysis procedures prior to the permitting process.

Catherine Biscoe, Philomath, OR – Ms. Biscoe explained that she believed the meeting was not posted legally. She stated that it was not listed in the city newsletter and the online city calendar. She stated her dissatisfaction with city staff not including municipal code that addresses water treatment and funding and a current LUBA appeal. She further stated her dissatisfaction with city staff and that they are directing attention to the wrong matters. Ms. Biscoe requested the committee reconsider holding the meeting because it had not been properly advertised to the citizens of Philomath.

Mark Weiss, Philomath, OR – Mr. Weiss discussed the city website and that the meeting was not posted on the calendar. He requested the meeting be called off.

Sandy Heath, Philomath, OR – Ms. Heath requested the meeting called off.

1 Robert Biscoe, Philomath, OR – Mr. Biscoe explained his disappointment in having to ask
2 city staff to add public comment to the agendas of appropriate meetings. He explained
3 that he has had to request to add public comment to meeting agendas several times with
4 city staff and is becoming discouraged. He requested that the meeting be postponed.
5

6 Mr. Workman explained that there are certain meetings that do not qualify for public
7 comment. He expounded that city staff had addressed code and annexation criteria from
8 the past five years that needed updated and that the City Attorney had suggested be
9 addressed, as well. He stated that there has never been any intent to stifle the voice of
10 the public in regard to public comment at meetings. He explained the communications
11 between the public and himself in regard to allowing public comment. He further stated
12 the importance of the municipal codes that are being addressed in the meeting and
13 meetings prior.
14

15 Mr. Workman read an email from Ms. Post, City Recorder, stating the statute of
16 requirements of notice and/or posting of public meetings. He addressed several places in
17 which the meeting had been posted and listed the specific time and date for each of
18 those postings.
19

20 Jeff Lamb, Philomath, OR – Mr. Lamb suggested that the committee postpone the
21 meeting after Commissioner Sullivan’s agenda item: Philomath Vision.
22

23 **MOTION:** Chair Stein moved, Commissioner Sullivan second, that the committee
24 postpone discussing Chapter 18 Zoning Amendments for one month and continue this
25 meeting to discuss Commissioner Sullivan’s agenda item: Philomath Vision.

26 APPROVED 7-0 (Yes; Conner, Sullivan, Gibbs, Boggs, Gay, Yoder, Stein. No; None)
27

28 Chair Stein called a break in the meeting at 6:50 p.m.
29

30 Chair Stein called the meeting back to order at 6:55 p.m.
31

32 **5. New Business**

33 **5.1 Philomath Vision, Joseph Sullivan**

34

35 Philomath Vision -- Commissioner Sullivan explained that his family used to tour around
36 the country in an RV. He explained that when taking these family trips his parents had a
37 vision and plan. He described that the vision his parents projected to him was their final
38 destination instead of specific directions such as, left or right.
39

40 Commissioner Sullivan explained hypothetical visions for the city. He suggested that
41 eventually the comprehensive plan from 1998 needs to be rewritten. Commissioner
42 Sullivan asked to form a small sub-committee of three members at most from the
43 Planning Commission to come up with some visions for the community. He explained
44 that members of this committee might complete tasks such as: visiting neighboring cities
45 that may be a source of inspiration, coming up with new visions for Philomath, and
46 discussing ways to accomplish those goals. He also mentioned that he would be willing
47 to do research on his own to bring to the committee for a new vision or visions for the city
48 of Philomath. The committee came to the consensus that Commissioner Sullivan should
49 pursue data and research for a new vision on his own. Commissioner Conner suggested
50 to Commissioner Sullivan to keep the committee up to date on specific vision projects
51 that he is working on.
52

1 Mr. Workman read from the Philomath Municipal Code, Section 2.230.060 pertaining to
2 the duties of the Planning Commission. Mr. Workman and City Attorney Amy Cook
3 discussed what is within the legal scope of what Commissioner Sullivan is pursuing.
4 Commissioner Sullivan agreed to check in with the City Attorney as to the material he will
5 be pursuing.
6

7 Robert Biscoe, Philomath, OR – Mr. Biscoe stated that he would be available to
8 Commissioner Sullivan should he need any help with the project he is pursuing.
9

10 **MOTION:** Commissioner Stein moved, Commissioner Sullivan second, to postpone
11 consideration of the Chapter 18 Zoning Amendments until the committee decides when to
12 have it. APPROVED 7-0 (Yes; Conner, Sullivan, Gibbs, Boggs, Gay, Yoder, Stein. No;
13 None.)
14

15
16 **6. ADJOURNMENT:**

17 There being no further business, Chair Stein adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.
18

19 SIGNED:

ATTEST:

20
21 David Stein, Chair

Ashley Howell, Clerk
22